

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of associating a permission set with a code assembly based on evidence characterized by different levels of trust, the method implemented at least in part by a computing device comprising:

identifying a first condition for association with the permission set, wherein the first condition references a first element of evidence, wherein the first element of evidence is implicitly trusted and wherein the permission set is used to control operation of the code assembly during run-time;

identifying a second condition for association with the permission set, wherein the second condition references a second element of evidence, wherein the second element of evidence is initially untrusted;

determining whether the first condition is satisfied by the first element of evidence;

determining whether the second element of evidence should be trusted based on the first condition;

determining whether the second condition is satisfied by the second element of evidence; and

associating the permission set with the code assembly, if both the first condition and the second condition are satisfied;

evaluating the first condition and the second condition using a logical

operation to determine membership of the code assembly in a parent code group; and
evaluating the code assembly against membership criteria of a child code
group if the code assembly is a member of the parent code group.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the operation of receiving a first condition comprises:

receiving the first condition and the first element of evidence within a membership criterion.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the operation of receiving a second condition comprises:

receiving the second condition and the second element of evidence within a membership criterion.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the operation of receiving a first condition comprises:

receiving the first condition in a membership criterion; and

receiving the first element of evidence based on a reference included in the membership criterion.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the operation of

receiving a second condition comprises:

receiving the second condition in a membership criterion; and

receiving the second element of evidence based on a reference included in the membership criterion.

6-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

generating a collection of code groups, each code group being associated with a membership criterion and a permission set, wherein the first condition and the second condition are received in the membership criterion associated with one of the code groups; and

determining whether the code assembly is a member of the code group, based on the membership criterion.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the associating operation comprises:

associating the permission set of the code group with the code assembly, if the code assembly is determined to be a member of the code group.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

receiving at least a third condition referencing a third element of evidence, wherein the third element is initially untrusted;

determining whether the third element of evidence should be trusted based on the second condition; and

determining whether the third condition is satisfied by the third element of the evidence, wherein the associating operation comprises associating the permission set with the code assembly, if the first condition, the second condition, and the third condition are satisfied.

11. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable media having instructions that, when executed on one or more processors perform a process for associating a permission set with a code assembly based on evidence characterized by different levels of trust comprising:

generating a collection of code groups, wherein each code group is used to define a category of related code assemblies, each code group being associated with a membership criterion and a permission set used to control operation of the code assembly during run-time;

receiving the membership criterion associated with a parent one of the code group groups, the membership criterion including at least a first condition and a second condition;

referencing a first element of evidence in the first condition, wherein the first

element of evidence is trusted independent of other evidence and conditions;

referencing a second element of evidence in the second condition, wherein the second element of evidence is initially untrusted;

determining whether the first condition is satisfied by the first element of evidence;

determining whether the second element of evidence should be trusted based on the first condition;

determining whether the second condition is satisfied by the second element of evidence;

evaluating the first condition and the second condition using a logical operation to determine membership of the code assembly in the parent code group;

if the code assembly is a member of the parent code group, evaluating the code assembly against membership criteria of a child code group; and

associating the permission set with the code assembly, if the code assembly is determined to be a member of the parent code group.

12. (Previously presented) One or more computer-readable media according to claim 11 where in the computer process further comprises:

receiving at least a third condition referencing a third element of evidence, wherein the third element is initially untrusted;

determining whether the third element of evidence should be trusted based on

the second condition; and

determining whether the third condition is satisfied by the third element of evidence, wherein the associating operation comprises associating the permission set with the code assembly, if the first condition, the second condition, and the third condition are satisfied.

13. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable media having computer-executable instructions for performing a method of associating a permission set with a code assembly based on evidence characterized by different levels of trust comprising:

receiving a first condition referencing a first element of evidence, wherein the first condition is associated with the permission set and the first element of evidence is trusted independent of other evidence and conditions;

receiving a second condition referencing a second element of evidence, wherein the second condition is associated with the permission set and the second element is initially untrusted;

determining whether the first condition is satisfied by the first element of evidence;

determining whether the second element should be trusted based on the first condition;

determining whether the second condition is satisfied by the second element of

evidence;

evaluating the first condition and the second condition using a logical operation to determine membership of the code assembly in a parent code group; and

associating the permission set with the code assembly, if both the first and second conditions are satisfied, wherein the permission set is used to control operation of the code assembly during run-time; and

if the code assembly is a member of the parent code group, evaluating the code assembly against membership criteria of a child code group.

14. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable media having instructions that, when executed on one or more computing processors, perform a process for associating a permission set with a code assembly based on evidence characterized by different levels of trust comprising:

receiving at least a first condition referencing a first element of evidence, wherein the first condition is associated with the permission set and the first element of evidence is trusted independent of other evidence and conditions;

receiving at least a second condition referencing a second element of evidence, wherein the second condition is associated with the permission set and the second element is initially untrusted;

determining whether the first condition is satisfied by the first element of evidence;

determining whether the second element of evidence should be trusted based on the first condition;

determining whether the second condition is satisfied by the second element of evidence; and

associating the permission set with the code assembly, if both the first and second conditions are satisfied, wherein the permission set is used to control operation of the code assembly during run-time; and

evaluating the first condition and the second condition using a logical operation to determine membership of the code assembly in a parent code group, and if a member, evaluating the code assembly against membership criteria of a child code group.

15. (Currently Amended) A policy manager for associating a permission set with a code assembly based on evidence characterized by different levels of trust, the policy manager implemented by one or more computing devices comprising:

a code collection generator generating a collection of code groups, wherein each code group is used to define a category of related code assemblies, each code group being associated with the membership criterion and a permission set used to control operation of the code assembly during run-time;

a membership evaluator determining if the code assembly is a member of ~~[[the]]~~ a parent said code group by evaluating at least a first condition and a second

condition associated with the parent said code group one of the code groups, and if so, evaluating membership of the code assembly in a child said code group, the first condition referencing an implicitly trusted first element of evidence; the second condition referencing an initially untrusted second element of evidence, wherein a determination of trust associated with the second element of evidence is based on the first condition; and

a permission set generator associating the permission set of the parent said code group with the code assembly, if the code assembly is determined to be a member of the parent said code group.

16. (Previously Presented) The policy manager of claim 15 wherein the membership evaluator further receives at least a third condition referencing an initially untrusted third element of evidence, wherein the third condition is associated with the permission set and a determination of trust associated with the third element of evidence is dependent upon the second condition, and determines whether the third condition is satisfied by the third element of evidence, and

wherein the permission set generator associates the permission set with the code assembly, if the first condition, the second conditioned, and the third conditions are satisfied.

17. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable media having

instructions that, when executed on one or more processors, perform a process for associating a permission set with a code assembly based on evidence characterized by different levels of trust, the computer process comprising:

receiving one or more first conditions, each first condition being associated with one or more first elements of evidence, wherein each first condition is associated with the permission set used to control operation of the code assembly during run-time;

determining whether each first condition is satisfied by an associated first element of evidence;

generating an indication for each first condition that is satisfied;

receiving a second condition associated with the permission set;

determining whether the second condition is satisfied based on the indications, wherein a level of trust associated with the indications depends upon a first condition of the one or more first conditions;

evaluating the first condition and the second condition using a logical operation to determine membership of the code assembly in a parent code group;

evaluating the code assembly against membership criteria of a child code group if the code assembly is a member of the parent code group; and

associating the permission set with the code assembly, if both the first condition in the second condition are satisfied.

18. (Currently amended) One or more computer-readable media according to claim 17 wherein the indication is associated with ~~[[the]]~~ a first value associated with the first condition, and the operation of determining whether the second condition is satisfied comprises:

collecting ~~[[a]]~~ the first value and additional values associated with other satisfied conditions to provide collected values;

summing the collected values to provide a sum; and

evaluating the sum against a threshold to determine whether the second condition is satisfied.

19. (Previously presented) One or more computer-readable media according to claim 17 wherein at least one first element of evidence includes initially untrusted evidence.

20. (Previously presented) One or more computer-readable media according to claims 17 wherein at least one indication includes initially untrusted evidence.

21. (Previously presented) One or more computer-readable media according to claim 17 wherein the computer process further comprises:

generating an indication for each first condition that is not satisfied.